



**Whitman-Hanson
Regional School District**

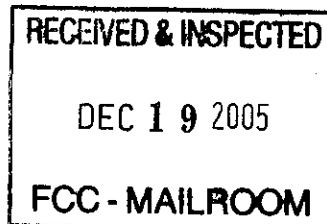
TECHNOLOGY SERVICES DEPARTMENT



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December 14, 2005

FCC Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street SW
Washington DC 20554



Re: SLD Appeal
FRN # 1194308, 1194529, 1195677, 1196044

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to you today to appeal a November 29, 2005 decision by the SLD regarding the above referenced funding request numbers for 2004 E-Rate Reimbursements. Our funding requests were denied due to not meeting the 120 days filing requirements for the FCC Form 486. Our appeal request is being made under CC Docket No. 02-6.

Our original appeal to SLD (attached) references our belief that we were in fact within the 120 day window. The delivery package was left in our central mailroom for priority Fed Ex pickup on 10/11/2005 (referenced on enclosed attachment). Delivery was received at SLD on 10/15/2005 at 10:07am.

During the summer of 2005 our school and offices relocated to a newly constructed building directly behind the existing site. The existing building was demolished upon our exit. During the transition mail and package services continued to be problematic. Two errors, both on our part, related to the October 15th delivery.

- 1) Mail services did not provide the pickup to the Fed Ex driver on the first stop. The mail room furnishings had not arrived when we moved into our facility, and the package was missed when the driver came on October 12, 2005. Our original request for package pickup, and date on the shipping label was in fact October 11, 2005. A subsequent call was placed to re-pickup the package when the error was discovered on October 14, 2005.
- 2) Our staff used a spreadsheet and common Microsoft Excel formula (Days360) for calculation of the correct submission date. This formula incorrectly calculated the 120th day as being October 14, 2005. In fact on the last SLD response we questioned how our appeal could have been denied when we were within the time frame. Since receipt of the appeal, we have manually calculated and found the actual 120th day to be October 12, 2005, as both July and August have 31 calendar days. The Microsoft formula as we have now found bases all months on 30 days.

Due to decreased state and federal funding, we have become dependent on reimbursements from the E-Rate in order to support our operational services. For the

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length of the program we have not received funding for any equipment, only for routine telecommunications and internet services. Our service providers are all under managed Commonwealth of Massachusetts contracts, and currently there are no other entities able to service local dial tone in our region.

The reimbursement funds have been used to supplement staff development and enhance direct services to our student population. I cannot express how much of an impact this decision has in the ability to provide technology programs!

I appreciate your review and understanding and look forward to the decision regarding our request.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. W. Finley', written over the printed name.

Craig W. Finley
Director of Technology Services

enc.

cc.

Honorable Senator John Kerry, D- MA
Honorable Senator Edward Kennedy, D- MA
Honorable Representative Stephen Lynch, D-MA 9th
John F. McEwan, Superintendent of Schools

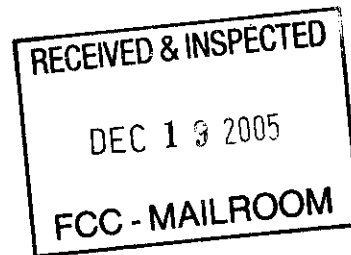


Universal Service Administrative Company
Schools & Libraries Division

Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2004-2005

November 29, 2005

Chad M. Peters
Whitman-Hanson Regional School District
600 Franklin Street
Whitman, MA 02382



Re: Applicant Name: WHITMAN-HANSON REG SCHOOL DIST
Billed Entity Number: 120637
Form 471 Application Number: 429515
Form 486 Application Number: 317084
Funding Request Number(s): 1194308, 1194529, 1195677, 1196044
Your Correspondence Dated: November 14, 2005

After thorough review and investigation of all relevant facts, the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has made its decision in regard to your appeal of SLD's Funding Year 2004 Form 486 Notification Letter for the Application Number indicated above. This letter explains the basis of SLD's decision. The date of this letter begins the 60-day time period for appealing this decision to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). If your Letter of Appeal included more than one Application Number, please note that you will receive a separate letter for each application.

Funding Request Number(s): 1194308, 1194529, 1195677, 1196044
Decision on Appeal: **Denied**
Explanation:

- On appeal, you seek reversal of the SLD's decision to adjust the Service Start Date and reduce the funding request commitment amounts for violating the Form 486 120-day deadline. In support of your request, you state that you sent your Form 486 via Federal Express on October 14, 2005. You state that this date is within 120-days of June 14, 2005, the date of the Funding Commitment Decision Letter. You provide a copy of the Federal Express tracking detail to show the postmark and delivery.
- Upon thorough review of the appeal letter and relevant documentation, the SLD has determined that the Form 486 for these funding requests was not filed within 120 days calculated from the date of the Funding Commitment Decision Letter

(FCDL) or the Service Start Date (SSD) as indicated on the Form 486, whichever date is later. The record shows that the date of the FCDL is June 14, 2005, and that the SSD indicated on the Form 486 was July 1, 2004. The Form 486 was postmarked and certified on October 14, 2005. Since the Form 486 was postmarked and certified more than 120 days after the later date of the FCDL, the SSD has been revised to the date 120 days before the Form 486 postmark date, which is June 16, 2005. The funding commitment amounts have been reduced accordingly. See Funding Year 2004 Funding Commitment Decision Letter, Universal Service for Schools and Libraries, Receipt of Service Confirmation Form, OMB 3060-0853. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all forms are submitted to the SLD in a correct and timely manner. As a result, the appeal is denied.

If your appeal has been approved, but funding has been reduced or denied, you may appeal these decisions to either the SLD or the FCC. For appeals that have been denied in full, partially approved, dismissed, or canceled, you may file an appeal with the FCC. You should refer to CC Docket No. 02-6 on the first page of your appeal to the FCC. Your appeal must be received or postmarked within 60 days of the date on this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. If you are submitting your appeal via United States Postal Service, send to: FCC, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. Further information and options for filing an appeal directly with the FCC can be found in the "Appeals Procedure" posted in the Reference Area of the SLD web site or by contacting the Client Service Bureau. We strongly recommend that you use the electronic filing options.


We thank you for your continued support, patience and cooperation during the appeal process.

Schools and Libraries Division
Universal Service Administrative Company

IMPORTANT!

For information on Hurricane Katrina, please click here.

Track Shipments

 Quick Help**Detailed Results**

Tracking number	790183519454	Destination	Lawrence, KS
Signed for by	R.WOODRELL	Delivered to	Shipping/Receiving
Ship date	Oct 14, 2005	Service type	Express Saver
Delivery date	Oct 15, 2005 10:07 AM	Envelope	0.5 lbs.
Weight			
Status	Delivered		

Date/Time	Activity	Location	Details
Oct 15, 2005	10:07 AM Delivered	Lawrence, KS	
	9:28 AM On FedEx vehicle for delivery	LAWRENCE, KS	
	8:16 AM At local FedEx facility	LAWRENCE, KS	
	4:39 AM At dest sort facility	KANSAS CITY, MO	
	3:55 AM Departed FedEx location	MEMPHIS, TN	
	1:16 AM Arrived at FedEx location	MEMPHIS, TN	
Oct 14, 2005	8:41 PM Left origin	RANDOLPH, MA	
	4:05 PM Picked up	RANDOLPH, MA	
Oct 11, 2005	4:28 PM Package data transmitted to FedEx		

**Requested Pickup
For 10/12/2005**

Sign up for email	Email results	Track new shipments
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Subscribe to tracking updates (optional)

Your Name: Your Email Address:

Email address	Language	Exception updates	Delivery updates
<input type="text"/>	English <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	English <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	English <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	English <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Select format: ☒ HTML ☐ Text ☐ Wireless

Add personal message:

Not available for Wireless or non-English characters.

☐ By selecting this check box and the Submit button, I agree to these Terms and Conditions**Submit**